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document *Why Do Black-Hole X-ray Binaries Tend to Be Transient? Why Do Black-Hole X-ray
Binaries Tend to Be Transient? Black-Hole X-ray Transients Jean-Pierre Lasota Jean-Pierre Lasota Institut
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abstract

Black hole X-ray binaries are transient probably because their discs are subject to the same thermal-
viscous instability which is present in dwarf nova binary systems. I discuss applications of the dwarf-nova
instability model to transient, low-mass, X-ray binary systems. When disc truncation and X-ray irradiation
are taken into account this model is capable of reproducing the basic properties of X-ray binary outbursts
(dhl).